

Greenblum and Bernstein P.L.C. 1950 Roland Clarke Place Reston VA 20191-1411

Date: May 11, 2007

To: Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Subject: Misdirected Mail for US Application No. 10/740,262

n No. 35,094

The above-referenced firm is returning the enclosed Office Action which was received on May 9, 2007. Please note that we are not attorneys of record in the above listed case.

Signed;

<u> Ингт</u>	MAY 1 7 2007	T AND TRADEMARK OFF	UNITED STATES DEPA United States Patent and Address: COMMISSIONER P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 2 www.uspto.gov	
APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTO	OR ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/740,262	12/18/2003	Thomas J. Anderson	58716US002	1910
	7590 05/01/200 TIVE PROPERTIES CO	MPANY ILUCTIVED	MARCHESC	MINER HI, MICHAEL A
PO BOX 3342° ST. PAUL, M		MAY 0 9 2007	ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
		GREENBLUM & BERNSTEI		1 2
SHORTENED STATUTOR	RY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVE	RY MODE
3 MC	ONTHS	05/01/2007	ELEC	TRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Notice of this Office communication was sent electronically on the above-indicated "Notification Date" and has a shortened statutory period for reply of 3 MONTHS from 05/01/2007.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

LegalUSDocketing@mmm.com LegalDocketing@mmm.com

ALPES	,	
MAY 1 7 2007	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/740,262	ANDERSON ET AL.
Office Action Summan?	Examiner	Art Unit
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Michael A. Marcheschi	1755
- The MAILING DATE of this communication apperiod for Reply	pears on the cover sheet v	vith the correspondence address
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPL WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING D - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1. after SIX (6) MONTHS from the malling date of this communication. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	ATE OF THIS COMMUN 136(a). In no event, however, may a will apply and will expire SIX (6) MO e, cause the application to become a	ICATION. In reply be timely filed INTHS from the mailing date of this communication. ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
Status		
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 1/3/	06 AND 5/10/06.	
2a) This action is FINAL . 2b) ☑ This	s action is non-final.	
3) Since this application is in condition for allowated closed in accordance with the practice under the condition of the condition.		
Disposition of Claims		
4)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-58</u> is/are pending in the application	ı. ·	
4a) Of the above claim(s) 30-58 is/are withdra		
5) Claim(s) is/are allowed.		
6)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-29</u> is/are rejected.		
7) Claim(s) is/are objected to.		
8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/o	or election requirement.	
Application Papers		
9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examin	er.	
	cepted or b) objected to	•
Applicant may not request that any objection to the	*	
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correct	•	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the E	xammer. Note the attach	ed Office Action of form PTO-152.
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119		
12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:		§ 119(a)-(d) or (f).
1. Certified copies of the priority documen		Application No.
2. Certified copies of the priority documen3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority		
application from the International Burea	•	received in this National Stage
* See the attached detailed Office action for a lis	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	ot received.
·		
Attachment(s)		
1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)		v Summary (PTO-413)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)	5) Notice o	o(s)/Mail Date f Informal Patent Application
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6/10/04, 5/12/04, 10/24/04, 1	2/7/04 6) ☐ Other: _	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office 2/21/05, 4/5/05 7/6/05 2 PTOL-326 (Rev. 08-06) Office A	Action Summary	Part of Paper No./Mail Date 20070425



Art Unit: 1755

Applicant's election of group I, claims 1-29 in the reply filed on 1/3/06 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).

Claim 28 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 28 is indefinite because the preamble recites "a method for making fused polycrystalline material" however, the starting material for the claimed process is a fused polycrystalline material, thus the claim does not clearly define a fusing step.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

- (a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.
- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are

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such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over WO 01/56947.

WO 01/56947 teaches on page 4, line 10, page 8, lines 1-25, page 9, lines 25-30, page 11, lines 3-30, page 12, lines 5-10, page 19, lines 8 and the claims, fused polycrystalline particles comprising an aluminum oxide/yttrium oxide complex (the complex has a garnet or perovskite structure and contains crystals having a dendritic structure-up to 1 micron). The aluminum oxide used is transitional alumina. The fused material has an aluminum oxide content of at least 50, 60, 70 or 80 weight percent. The amount of yttrium oxide can be calculated from the balance of the particles. The particles have the claimed specified nominal grades.

The claimed invention is anticipated by the reference because the reference teaches fused polycrystalline particles which comprises all of the claimed components. The reference uses transitional alumina and thus, in the final product, some of the alumina will still be in the transitional form absent evidence to the contrary.

In the alternative, no patentable distinction is seen to exist between the reference and the claimed invention absent evidence to the contrary because the reference states on page 11, lines 15-16 that the eutectic is made up of an alumina phase and this implies any alumina phase making transitional alumina obvious. Assuming arguendo about the size of the dendritic crystals, the reference states on page 11, lines 29-30 that the abrasion performance decreases as the size of the primary crystals (dendritic structures) increase, thus one skilled in the art would

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have appreciated the size required to optimize the abrasion performance through routine experimentation and optimization.

Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 11, 12, 15-18 and 22-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over U.S. 20030115805.

U.S. 20030115805 teaches in sections [0023]-[0024], [0057], [0058], [0066], [0077], [0093], [0098], [0103] and [0108]-[0110], fused polycrystalline particles comprising an alpha aluminum oxide crystal phase and an aluminum oxide/yttrium oxide complex (the complex has a garnet structure) crystal phase. The aluminum oxide used is transitional alumina. The fused material has an aluminum oxide content and yttrium oxide content consistent with the instant claims. At least a portion (of the particles comprises alpha alumina having a crystal size greater than 200 nm (i.e. reads on the crystallite size of instant claim 26). The particles have the claimed specified nominal grades and are made by melting and cooling.

The claimed invention is anticipated by the reference because the reference teaches fused polycrystalline particles which comprises all of the claimed components. The reference uses transitional alumina (gamma alumina) and thus, in the final product, some of the alumina will still be in the transitional form absent evidence to the contrary. In addition, the reference defines alpha alumina and this is a transitional alumina.

In the alternative, no patentable distinction is seen to exist between the reference and the claimed invention absent evidence to the contrary because the reference states that the eutectic is made up of an alumina (phase) and this implies any alumina phase making transitional alumina obvious.

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The additional references cited on the 1449 have been reviewed by the examiner and are considered to be art of interest since they are cumulative to or less than the art relied upon in the above rejections.

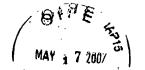
Any foreign language documents submitted by applicant has been considered to the extent of the short explanation of significance, English abstract or English equivalent, if appropriate.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael A. Marcheschi whose telephone number is (571) 272-1374. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00-5:30) First Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jerry Lorengo can be reached on (571) 272-1233. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MM 4/07 Michael A Marcheschi Primary Examiner Art Unit 1755



Notice of References Cited

Application/Control No. 10/740,262	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination ANDERSON ET AL.		
Examiner	Art Unit	•	
Michael A. Marcheschi	1755	Page 1 of 1	

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*		Document Number	Date	Name	Classification
<u> </u>		Country Code-Number-Kind Code	MM-YYYY		
*	Α	US-2003/0115805	06-2003	Rosenflanz et al.	51/307
	В	US-			
	С	US-			
	D	US-			
	E	US-			
	F	US-			
	G	US-			
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	J	US-			
	К	US-		·	
	L	US-			
	М	US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Country	Name	Classification
	N					
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	Т					

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
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	×	is reference is not being furnished with this Office action. See MPEP \$ 707.05(a).)

*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action, See MPEP § 707.05(a) Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications rough be used foreign.

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office PTO-892 (Rev. 01-2001)

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4/25/00

Part of Paper No. 20070425

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as newsary)

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JUN . 1 0 2004

Application Number	10/740262
Filing Date	December 18, 2003
First Named Inventor	Rosenflanz, Anatoly Z.
Art Unit	1755
Examiner Name	
Attorney Case Number	58716US002

		On a	TRADE.S. Patent	Documents	
Exam.	Cite	Document Number	Publication Date or Issue Date	Name of Patentee	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
tnit.*	1	No. Doc. Number-(Kind Code if Known)	MM-DD-YYYY		
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*Examiner: /Michael Marcheschi/ (04/25/2007) | Date Considered:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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*Examiner: /Michael Marcheschi/ (04/25/2007) | Date Considered:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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*Examiner: /Michael Marcheschi/ (04/25/2007) | Date Considered:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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*Examiner: /Michael Marcheschi/ (04/25/2007) Date Considered:

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(Use as many sheets as necessary)

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Init.*	No.	Doc. Number-(Kind Code if Known)		or Applicant of Cited Document	Figures Appear
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Examiner Name	
Attorney Case Number	58716US002

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Application Number	10/740262 December 18, 2003	
Filing Date		
First Named Inventor	Rosenflanz, Anatoly Z.	
Art Unit	1755	
Examiner Name		
Attorney Case Number	58716US002	

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		C78	U.S. Application entitled "Methods of Making Ceramic Particles", filed September 5, 2003, having U.S. Serial No. 10/655729 (Attorney Docket No. 58790US002)				
		C7,9	U.S. Application entitled "Methods of Making Ceramics Comprising Al ₂ O ₃ , REO, ZrO ₂ and/or HfO ₂ and Nb ₂ O ₅ and/or Ta ₂ O ₅ ", filed September 18, 2003, having U.S. Serial No. 10/666615 (Attorney Docket No. 58354US002) /				
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First Named Inventor	Rosenflanz, Anatoly Z.	
Art Unit	1755	
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Attorney Case Number	58716US002	

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/MM	C85	U.S. Application entitled "Method of Making Abrasive Particles", filed December 18, 2003, having U.S. Serial No. 10/739440 (Attorney Docket No. 59437US002)
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Filing Date	December 18, 2003	
First Named Inventor	Anderson, Thomas J.	
Art Unit	1755	
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First Named Inventor	Anderson, Thomas J.		
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Exam.	Cite	Cite Document Number	Publication Date or Name of Patentee Issue Date		Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
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Filing Date	December 18, 2003
First Named Inventor	Anderson, Thomas J.
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Examiner Name	
Attorney Case Number	58716US002

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Application Number	10/740262		
Filing Date	September 18,	2003	
First Named Inventor	Anderson, Tho	mas J.	
Art Unit	1755	RECEIV	
Examiner Name		ENTRAL PAA	
Attorney Case Number	58716US002	FEB 2 1	2005

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Exam,	Cite	Document Number	Publication Date or	Name of Patentee	Peges, Columns, Lines, Where		
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/MN	/C2	Standard: "Nominal Dimensions, Permissible Variations for Wire Cloth of Standard test Sieves (U.S.A.) Standard Series," ASTM International, Designation: E-11, (Date unknown but prior to filing date of Instant application), pp.3-6.				
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Application Number	10/740262
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First Named Inventor	Anderson, Thomas J.
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07/06/05 08:31 1 :04/04 NO:523 651 736 6133 10/740262 **Application Number**

Unknown

December 18, 2003 **Filing Date First Named Inventor** Anderson, Thomas J. 1755 Art Unit

Examiner Name 58716US002 Attorney Case Number

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Exam	Cite	Document Number	Publication Date or	Name of Patentee	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant					
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Thomas J.	Ande	rson, Woodbury, MN;							
Ahmet Celil	kkaya	a, Woodbury, MN;							
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TITLE Alumina-yttria par	ticles	and methods of makir	ng the sa	me					
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